

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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<b>Applicant(s):</b> Alan Lombardo et al.	:	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> 3733
<b>Serial No.:</b> 10/676,062	:	<b>Examiner:</b> James L. Swiger, III
<b>Filed:</b> October 1, 2003	:	<b>Attorney Docket No.:</b> 62189.010701
<b>For:</b> BONE PLATE ASSEMBLY	:	
PROVIDED WITH SCREW	:	
LOCKING MECHANISMS	:	

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**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JUNE 6, 2006 OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 6, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application. The June 6, 2006 Office Action provided a period of 3 months in which to file a response, i.e., by September 6, 2006. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.